

## Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 FEA-02 SCI-06 INT-08 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /158 W

----- 107146

R 151738Z JAN 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0023

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ALGIERS 0099

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, AG

SUBJ: ALGERIAN TREATMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL INVITATION

TO ENERGY CONFERENCE\*

REF: (A) ALGIERS 0065 (\*) ROME 554 (PARA 4) (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. GOA HAS NOT EXPRESSED ITSELF OFFICIALLY ON  
PRESIDENT NIXON'S CALL FOR A CONSUMERS' MEETING ON ENERGY IN  
WASHINGTON FEB. 11.

2. ALGERIAN PRESS SERVICE REPORTS THAT FONMIN BOUTEFLIKA  
RESPONDED IN PARIS ON JANUARY 11 IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER TO A  
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QUESTION ON THE CONFERENCE. QUOTE I THI\*K THAT THIS PROBLEM IS  
CERTAINLY THE ORDER OF THE DAY. THERE ARE IN ANY CASE MANY

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE DECIDING \*N A POSITION ON THE AMERICAN INITIATIVE WHICH COULD HAVE A SALUTARY EFFECT IF IT WAS HELD TO CREATE NEW RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DCS AND LDCS. BUT IT COULD BE LIMITED IN ITS RESULTS IF TREATED BURNING PROBLEMS ONLY AND LEFT ASIDE OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH ARE ALSO IMPORTANT TO PRODUCER COUNTRIES AND NON-PRODUCER COUNTRIES' WHO ARE NOT LARGE CONSUMERS, FOR EXAMPLE MONETARY PROBLEMS AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE. END QUOTE. FOR ABDESSELAMS MORE NEGATIVE COMMENTS SEE REF B.

3. ALGERIAN NEWSPAPERS STRESS THAT PRICES ALONE ARE NOT FOR DEBATE CLAIMING THAT PRICE RISES ARE FAULT OF BIG U.S. OIL COMPANIES THAT HAVE PREVENTED STATE TO STATE CONTRACTS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LOU. WE HAVE HEARD FROM GOOD SOURCE THAT IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH A EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR JAN 11, PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE CRITICIZED PROPOSED CONSUMER CONFERENCE AS ATTEMPT BY INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD TO IMPOSE UNFAIR (LOW) PRICE ON PRODUCERS. BY NOT INVITING ALL EEC MEMBERS, HE TOLD AMBASSADOR, U.S. WAS ALSO TRYING TO DIVIDE EUROPE. HE ALSO SAID ALGERIA PREFERRED BILATERAL PETROLEUM AGREEMENTS OF THE TYPE IT HAD WITH FRANCE.

5. COMMENT: GOA WILL PROBABLY AVOID ADOPTING AN OFFICIAL POSITION RE ENERGY CONFERENCE UNTIL PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE AND ITS LATER RELATIONSHIP WITH PRODUCING COUNTRIES BECOMES CLEARER. MEANWHILE, ALGERIAN PRESS AND INDIVIDUAL COMMENT WILL PROBABLY REMAIN SCEPTICAL. END LOU. EAGLETON

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## Message Attributes

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